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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the first paragraph following the title, the claim to priority added by preliminary amendment, with the following, as directed by the Examiner in the Office Action:

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10/57/08 688 This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/690,180 entitled "Distributed Network Management System and Method" filed June 30, 2000, now abandoned, which is incorporated by reference.